CINCINNATI PARKS NTER 05 ** 06 NATURE ACTIVITIES

Cincinnati Park Board Nature Activity Guide Winter 2005

Welcome to the natural heritage of your Cincinnati Parks. In these pages, you'll find Park Naturalist-led programs for the general public, suitable for all ages. Be sure to check out the Cincinnati Parks' website at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks See you out in the parks!

Groups of 10 or more people can reserve a weekday naturalist program at a center or out in a park by calling *321-6070*. For Krohn Conservatory tours, groups should call 421-5707.

For more information about a specific nature center, call the naturalists at the numbers below. Come visit for a program or just drop by.

Avon Woods Nature Ctr.	4235 Paddock Road	861-3435
Bettman Education Ctr.	4 Beech Lane	321-6070
Caldwell Nature Ctr.	430 W. N. Bend Road	761-4313
California Woods Nature Ctr.	5400 Kellogg Avenue	231-8678
Krohn Conservatory	1501 Eden Park Dr.	421-5707
LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Ctr.	5400 Lanius Lane	542-2909

Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request, call 352-3380 TTY

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Public Hikes and Programs

(Unless otherwise noted, public programs are free.)

December

Birding 101

Sun., Dec. 4, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. - Alms Park

Come learn about the latest sport that is sweeping the nation! Winter is a perfect time to learn basic winter birds. Learn some basic techniques to get you started and then go out and practice. Binoculars will be provided or bring your own. Meet at the pavilion steps. Call 761-4313 for more information.

Annual Holiday Craft Workshop

Fri., *Dec.* 9, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Woods
Bring the family for a pleasant evening exercising your creative side and relaxing by the fire. Choose what you want to make from a selection of craft projects suited to all ages. Staff will instruct and advise, but the personal touches are up to you. Go home with several completed projects to brighten your home for the holidays. Fee: \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Paid reservations are required for this popular event. Send your payment with number of people and children's ages. Call 542-2909 for more information.

Hidden Farms of McFarlan Woods

Sat., Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m. - noon — Maple Ridge Lodge
Discover the remains of Cincinnati's more rural history as
we explore the old farm fields of Mt. Airy Forest. Along
the way we will find old hedgerows, foundations, and
structures that hint at a much different past from
the now familiar wooded hillsides. Portions of this
hike will be off trail and may be somewhat
strenuous. For more information and reservations,
please call 861-3435.

"Winter in the Woodlands"

Sat., Dec. 10, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. — California Woods
Families and adults can enjoy a self-guided leisurely walk through the illuminated winter woodlands of California Woods. Warm yourselves around a crackling fire, and if you wish, make an old-fashioned craft. "City Hall Renaissance Orchestra," a five piece acoustic string band will perform. Meet at the Nature Center, but bundle up; it's sure to be a true "winter" experience! A flashlight is suggested. Reservations required by Dec. 9. Call 231-8678 for more information. Fee \$5.00 per person, payable day of the program.

National Audubon Bird Count - Western Cincinnati

Sun., Dec. 18, 8:00 a.m. - noon or 5:00 p.m.

Spend a day or half-day improving your birding skills and advancing our knowledge of trends in bird populations. This west-side count is part of a nation-wide network. Call 321-6070 ext. 14 for information, or join us at Spring Grove Cemetery's main entrance at 8 a.m. Fee: \$5.00 goes to Audubon to help with data compilation.

National Audubon Bird Count - Leastern Cincinnati

Mon., Dec. 26, 8:00 a.m. - noon or 5:00 p.m. Birding is best in the winter - really! With leaves off the trees, you have a chance to give yourself vivid memories of winter birds you can actually see. Call 321-6070 ext. 14 for more information, or join us at 8 a.m. in the Stanbery Park parking lot. Full

or half-day birders welcomed. Fee: \$5.00 goes to Audubon to help with data compilation.

January

Brrr...Surviving the Winter Blues!

Sun., Jan. 8, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. — Theodore M. Berry Friendship Park
Avoid the hustle of crowds at the malls and join us for a leisurely walk along a
paved path to discover the clever techniques that native plants and animals use
to survive the winter. Along the way, you will also learn the stories behind the
unique art works found in the park. Appropriate for all ages! Dress for the
weather. Meet at the international flag plaza.

For more information, please call 321-6070 ext. 16.

Atypical Angiosperms: The World of Non-Photosynthetic Plants

Fri., Jan. 13, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. — Avon Woods
Matt Klooster, University of Cincinnati
Sponsored by the Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society
For more information please call 861-3435.

Working with Worms

Sun., Jan. 22, noon - 5:00 p.m. — Krohn Conservatory
Stop by the Conservatory and see how an indoor bin of red worms can digest your kitchen scraps and turn them into nutrient rich compost for your plants.
See bins at various stages and learn how "red wigglers" can work for you. Call 542-2909 for information.

Friday the 13th: The Night Hike

Fri., Jan. 13, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. — Caldwell Nature Center
Do you have triskaidekaphobia? Join us as we dispel superstitious myths and enjoy the almost full moon on this invigorating hike. We will call for owls; try lighting deprivation activities, and having a "sparky party!" Sturdy footwear is a must. Dress for the weather. Call 761-4313 for more information.

Winter Woodland Hike

Sat., Jan. 21, 10:30 a.m. - noon — Parkers Woods
Join us for a brisk hike through a Northside green space that is noted for its
mature native trees. Along the way, we'll learn the secrets of winter tree I.D. as
well as what some of the parks fuzzier creatures are up to. Meet at the Bruce
Ave. entrance. For more information, please call 861-3435.

Winter Breakout!

Sat., Jan. 28, 11:00 a.m. - noon — Little Duck Creek Park
Break out of the house, office, and shopping mall for some fresh air and find out what wildlife is stirring in this small treasure of a nature preserve. We'll stroll along a gentle, easy trail to a nice spot by the creek and look for birds, animal tracks and other evidence of wildlife activity along the way. Call 542-2909 for more information.

February

Vermicomposting at Home

Fri., Feb. 3, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Woods

An indoor worm bin can be a fascinating way to recycle your kitchen waste into rich compost for your favorite plants. Set up your own bin with materials brought from home. This program is supported in part by the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, which will pay half the cost of your worms (a \$10 value). Please call 542-2909 for more information, a materials list, and a worm reservation. Fee: \$10.00

Let's Make Tracks

Sat., Feb. 4, 10:30 a.m. - noon — Mt. Airy Arboretum

With over 1400 acres of forest and field, Mt. Airy Forest is home to a wide range of local wildlife. We will learn the basics of track identification and search for the many clues and signs left behind for us to observe. Meet at the Arboretum parking lot. For more information and directions, please call 861-3435.

Evolution in the Act: The Change of Trilobites in Cincinnati *Fri., Feb. 10, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. — Avon Woods* Dr. Brenda Hanke, Cincinnati Museum Center

Sponsored by the Cincinnati Wild Flower Preservation Society For more information please call 861-3435.



Mystery of Maple

Sat., Feb. 11, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. — Caldwell Nature Center
Ever wonder where maple syrup comes from and how it is made? Solve the
mystery here and now! Find out why maple syrup can only be made this time
of year and taste three different forms of production. Dress for the weather.
Meet at the nature center. Reservations are required. Call 761-4313 for
reservations or more information.

Maple Magic

Sat., Feb. 18, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. — California Woods
Sure, maple syrup tastes great, but have you ever
wondered how trees make it and why? Find out the
Maple tree's magic trick for making food and how we
people turn it into syrup. Join us as we tap trees,
collect sap and cook it down into pure sweetness.
Reservations required. Call 231-8678 for more
information or to make a reservation. Free.

Squirrels to Stones Scavenger Hunt

Sat., Feb. 25, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. — Fleischmann Gardens
Are your kids experiencing cabin fever? Are you needing a breath of fresh winter air? Do you want a reminder that Spring is around the corner? Join us for an active and fun hunt for common nature objects and discover some interesting facts along the way. Appropriate for all ages! Dress for the weather. Meet at the paved platform on the lower level. Please call 321-6070 ext. 16 for more information.

Look Ahead: March is Maple Month

Maple in Mt. Airy

Sat., March 4; breakfast seatings by reservation — Oak Ridge Lodge After an all-the-pancakes-you-can-eat breakfast, take a haywagon ride to the Arboretum, where you'll see how people have turned sap into syrup over the centuries. Fee: \$7.00 per person. Reservations required; call 321-6070.

Pancakes in the Woods

Sun., March 12 - California Woods

Celebrate the maple season! Enjoy pancakes and sausage grilled by celebrity chefs and listen to the story of sugaring. All proceeds benefit California Woods and Magrish Riverlands Preserves. Fee: \$6.00 adults, \$3.00 children.

Reservations NOT required. Call 231-8678 for information.

Krohn Conservatory

Eden Park's Krohn Conservatory is a nationally recognized showcase of more than 3,500 plant species from all over the world. The Palm, Tropical, Desert and Orchid houses exhibit permanent displays of exotic plants in natural settings, complete with a 20' rainforest waterfall. The Display House features the stunning floral shows listed below. Call **421-5707** for more information.

Free admission; donations accepted.

Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A Bavarian Holiday

November 19 – January 4, 2006

This year's Holiday Show features a Bavarian theme befitting of Cincinnati's German heritage. Many Christmas holiday traditions currently practiced in Cincinnat originated in Germany. The Krohn Conservatory embraces a few of these traditions each year. A tall Christmas tree decorated with handmade ornaments will occupy the lobby; the showroom will feature a gingerbread house complete with Hansel and Gretel (immortalized by the German brothers Grimm), and an oversized music box comprised of miniature replicas of familiar Cincinnati buildings (some featuring German architecture). Free admission/donations accepted. Call 352-5707 for more information; 352-3380 TTY

Special Holiday Show Hours

Daily: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

December 3 - December 30: 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

New Years Eve and New Years Day: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Holiday Events at Eden Park

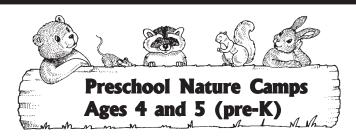
December 3 - January 1 - **Nativity Display** sponsored by Western-Southern December 3 & 4, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - **Holidays in Eden Park**December 8, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. - **Visit from Santa Claus**December 10, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Make a Christmas Craft**December 26, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - **Dulcimer Society Performance**

PreSpring Show - Heirlooms and New Blooms

Sponsored by National City Bank January 21 – February 26

This show is a unique comparison of antique flowers and their hybridized "modern" relatives. The scent of flowers and the sprouting blossoms bring a warm retreat from the winter weather outside.

Preschool programs



Children 4 or older, who have not yet attended Kindergarten, should sign up early for this popular Preschool camp. A different nature topic is presented each week through games, crafts, stories, music, puppets, and short hikes.

To register: Complete and mail in the form on page 14.

Avon Woods Mondays — 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Jan. 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 27; Mar. 6 (Registration due by Jan. 17) Cost: \$30.00 city residents \$35.00 non-residents

(Per child per 6-week session)



Caldwell Nature Center- Saturday Morning Preschool Fun

Children 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ (must be toilet trained) to 5 yrs old (who have not yet attended Kindergarten) can sign up for either or both of these fun Saturday adventures. Cost is \$5.00 per child per session. Preregistration required; fill out the form on page 14. Call 761-4313 for more information



Jan. 28 — Winter Wonders — 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Wish you could just sleep away winter? Don't do that! Come join us as we learn who is out and about this time of year. We will be looking for tracks, spying on birds and making some wintry crafts. Be sure to pack a lunch. Be dressed for the weather.

Feb. 25 - Maple Magic - 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where does Maple syrup come from? Solve the mystery as we discover how maple syrup is made. We will be tapping trees, playing games, and having some very tasty treats! Be sure to pack a lunch. Be dressed for the weather.

Programs for Children age 5 - 13

Please mail in registration form on pg. 14.

Campfire Cooking

Wed., Jan. 18, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center



Learn basics on fire building as we practice cooking a couple of tried and true desserts. Discover what a banana boat and orange kiss are. If the weather is bad, we will use our indoor fireplace. Dress for the weather and bring an appetite. Cost: \$5 per child; preregistration required by Jan. 13. Call 761-4313 for information.

Sweet Maple

Wed., Feb. 15, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. – Caldwell Nature Center
Join us as we unlock the mystery of photosynthesis and why this is the one
time of year when syrup is made. We will then go through the process step by
step from tapped tree to finished product. Half of the program will take place
outdoors. Please dress accordingly. Cost: \$5 per child; preregistration required
by Feb. 10. Call 761-4313 for information.

Nature Birthday Parties

Looking for a "Wild" party for your child's birthday? We'll provide the naturalist and the nature center, a short nature hike, nature-oriented activities, and a simple craft to keep as a memento. You provide everything else. Times and topics are limited. Please call 321-6070 for available times. Fee: \$125 (for two-hour party including activities) for up to 15 children; \$10 each additional child.

Don't let winter weather tie you down. Enjoy Winter's beauty at Cincinnati Parks and Nature Centers.



To register for either Winter Camp, Pre-registration is required.

Complete and mail in the form on pg. 14 by December 16.

Winter Break Nature Camps

Winter Wonderland

Grades K - 2

Wed., December 21, 9:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - California Woods The winter solstice is upon us and we are going to welcome this beginning of winter with a party! Join in on the fun as we embark on a winter hike, make a winter craft, and play some games outside and by the fire. Don't forget to bundle up, pack a lunch and drink, and be ready for an exciting time. For further information, please call 231-8678.

Fee: \$10 City residents; \$13 Non-residents.

Give a Cheer for Winter! Grades K - 2

Wed., December 28, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center We're going to celebrate the guiet calm of winter! Join in on the fun as we hike, play games, make crafts and simply relax with a story by the fire. Don't forget to bundle up, pack a lunch and drink, and be ready for an exciting time. For more information call 761-4313. Fee: \$10 City residents; \$13 Non-residents.

Nature Art Classes at LaBoiteaux Woods

Complete and mail the form on pg. 14

Drawing Classes for Ages 6 - 8

Mondays, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20 (eight sessions) Students explore nature and their own creativity while developing their drawing skills. Led by popular art teacher and naturalist Mary Jo Corrado.

Fee: city residents \$40.00 non-residents \$50.00

Drawing Classes for Ages 9 - 13

Thursdays, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 28, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar. 2, 9, 16 (eight sessions) Students explore nature and their own creativity while developing their drawing skills. Popular art teacher and naturalist Mary Jo Corrado leads these classes.

Fee: city residents \$40.00 non-residents \$50.00

A Habitat For Homeschoolers

Join other homeschooling families for fun and learning. All programs require advance registration (call the Nature Center phone number given in the description), and have a minimum attendance requirement of 15 appropriately-aged students. Fee: \$5.00 per person per program, including siblings and adults.

To register for any class on this page: Complete and mail the form on pg. 14.

A Day in the Life of a Native American

Wed., Jan. 16, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Avon Woods For ages 7 - 12 only. Emphasis is placed on the daily life (food, clothes, family, education) of an Ohio child 200 - 300 years ago in a lively presentation with audience participation, hands-on activities and native games. Students will discover on a hike how these early inhabitants interacted with their natural environment. Call 861-3435 for information. Registration due by Jan. 11.

Maple Sugaring At Caldwell Nature Center Mon., Feb. 6, 10:00 a.m. - noon - Caldwell Nature Center

Ages 4 – 8: Enjoy a lively indoor program about the importance of plants and photosynthesis and learn why maple syrup is made only at this time of the year. See how maple syrup is made from tree sap and taste test three different stages of sugar concentration. The program will also focus on history of Maple in America. Dress to be outdoors for half of the program. Reservations required by Feb. 10. For more information and to register, please call 761-4313.

Ages 9 – 14: Enjoy all of the information from the above program PLUS some scientific experiments dealing with density and learning how to classify using dichotomous keys. Dress to be outdoors for half of the program. Reservations required by Feb. 10. For more information and to register, please call 761-4313.

Sweet Maple

Thurs., Feb. 16, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - California Woods For ages 5 - 10 only. Learn how Sugar Maple Trees produce sap and why it is collected for syrup only during this brief season. Taste maple sap as sap, tea, and candy. The program includes Native Americans' use of maple sap, tapping,

Attention Scout and Youth Leaders

Science in Action Brownie Try-It For 2nd and 3rd grade Brownies

Tues., Dec. 13, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. — Caldwell Nature Center
Delve into the world of science as we do different experiments
and activities. We will make some very cool glop, learn about
colors and other neat things. After completion of these
activities, girls will earn their Science in Action Try-It. Patches
are not provided. Call 761-4313 for more information. Register by
Dec. 9. The fee is \$5.00 per person. Troop leaders do not pay.

Rocks Rock Badge for Junior Girl Scouts

Thurs., Jan. 19, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. — Caldwell Nature Preserve

Join us for a jam-packed program as we learn about what holds the world

up...rocks! We will make a rock collection; learn about the different types of
rocks and much, much more. Dress for the weather. Part of the program will be
outside. After completion of the activities, girls will earn their Rocks Rock badge
(patch not included). Troops must register by January 17th. Call 761-4313 for
more information or to register. The fee is \$5.00 per person. Troop leaders do
not pay.

Sweet Maple for Daisy, Brownie and Junior Scouts

Sat., Feb. 11, 11:00 a.m. - noon — Caldwell Enjoy a lively indoor program about the importance of plants and photosynthesis, and learn why maple syrup is made only at this time of the year. Outside, see how maple syrup is made from tree sap, and taste test three different stages of sugar concentration. Dress to be outdoors for half of the program. Fee: \$3.00 per person. Reservations required by Feb. 8.

Call 761-4313 for reservations or more information. Troop leaders do not pay.

Other Maple Programs at Caldwell and California Woods Nature Centers include tastes of sap, maple "tea" and maple taffy. Offered only in February, the only time Nature permits maple sugaring. Call **321-6070** to book your program.

Other Badge Programs for all levels of boy and girl scouting are available at all the Nature Centers and at neighborhood parks. For more information, call the Nature Center nearest you, or 321-6070.

Looking for a Service Project? Contact the nature center nearest you to learn how your troop can improve local habitats for wildlife, have fun, and fulfill advancement requirements all at the same time.

Acting Wild for Brownie and Junior Scouts

Cost: \$12 per girl. For more information, call 321-6070.

Sat. Jan. 14 - LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Center 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or 1:30 - 5:30 p.m. (2 sessions) Presented by The Imagination Factory. Explore theater and storytelling with a focus on animal legends, take part in acting games, script writing, mask making, costumes and performance. Program fulfills the Theater Badge requirements.

Sun. Jan. 15 - LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Center

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. (1 session only)

Presented by The Imagination Factory. Explore the world of make-believe, where anything can happen!

Recome a wild tiger, comical raccoon, or heautiful butterfly. Have

Become a wild tiger, comical raccoon, or beautiful butterfly. Have fun, be silly, and learn. Play creative games, explore mime, make a mask, do a performance. Meets requirements for "Let's Pretend" Try-it.

Please detach and return with a check (made payable to The Imagination Factory), along with the completed registration form (below) to: Acting Wild, Cincinnati Park Board, 4 Beech Ln. Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

Name of Contact Person: _				Troop #	_
Address:				Grade Level:	
City:	State:		_ Zip:		
Home Phone:		Work Phone	e:		_
Acting Wild Event:			D	ate:	_
# of Girls: x \$	512.00 = \$	Total	# of Adu	ults(No Fe	e)

Registrations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 321-6070 for more information on availability or program content.

Girl Scout Overnights for **Brownie and Junior Scouts**

Looking for opportunities to earn badges or try-its for your girl scout troop? Join us at Caldwell Nature Center for our Girl Scout overnights. Scouts will work on activities in the evening, sleepover and then continue on requirements the rest of the next day. One to two badges are earned for each Junior overnight and 3 Try-its are earned for a Brownie overnight. Sleeping area is indoors. Food is not provided. Cost is \$20.00 per girl. Leaders do not pay. Call 761-4313 for more information to register.



Finding Your Way Junior Overnight

Who: Junior Girl Scouts Date: December 2 - 3, 2005

Time: 6:00 p.m. Friday - 4:30 p.m. Saturday Girls will earn their "Finding Your Way" badge

Earth and Space Brownie Overnight

Who: Brownie Girl Scouts 2nd and 3rd Grade

Dates: January 6 - 7, 2006

January 20 - 21, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m. Friday - 3:30 p.m. Saturday Girls will earn their "Spacer Explorer", "Earth and Sky"

and "Science Wonders" Try-its.

Please detach and return with a check (made payable to **Treasurer**, City of Cincinnati), along with the completed registration form (below) to: Girl Scout Overnights, Cincinnati Park Board, 4 Beech Ln. Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

Name of Contact Person: _		Troop #
Address:		Grade Level:
City:	State:	Zip:
Home Phone:		Work Phone:
Overnight Event:		Date:
# of Girls: x \$	320.00 = \$	Total # of Adults (No Fee)

Registrations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 761-4313 for more information on availability or program content.

Program Registration Form

Age/Grade	Date of Birth	Date of Birth Emergency Phone		
Phone	Emergency Phon			
Address				
City	State	Zip		
E-mail address (option	nal):			
Center				
Program Title				
Session / Time Desire	d (if more than one offered)			
Amount Enclosed \$_				
(Make checks payable to: 7	reasurer, City of Cincinnati)			
its employees from any and out of this program. I give p picture to be used without io	narmless the Cincinnati Board of all liability for any injuries, loss, ermission for my child to be phodentification or compensation in an emergency, I hereby give per an emergency, I hereby give per particular and emergency.	or other claims arising tographed and for his/he Park publications. In the		

personnel selected by the program director to administer treatment, including hospitalization, for my child as named above.

Signature of parent/guardian	
(Please print parent/quardian name)	

If your child has medical problems or allergies, including food allergies, please attach a note informing the program staff of the potential problem.

To register, mail the form above with payment to:

Bettman Natural Resources Center Cincinnati Park Board 4 Beech Lane Cincinnati, OH 45208





CINCINNATI PARK BOARD BETTMAN NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER 4 BEECH LANE CINCINNATI OH 45208

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